

E. # 1622
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Evidentiary Document # 5110.

REV. JOHN RICHARDSON being duly sworn states:-

I am the Rev. John Richardson of the Church of England and an Nicobarese by birth and my age is about 57 years.

In August 1943 coolies were wanted to make the roads and to move the Naval Headquarters from MUS to MALACCA. Epidemics of inflammation of the eyes and influenza were prevailing at the time. One Nicobarese was struck several times by Superior private HISAO KIMURA. This Nicobarese was sick with pneumonia and died the following night as a result of the beating.

The last raids were in July 1945, the longest one lasting seven days. Fearing that English and Americans would land we were all removed into the interior detention camp. All the time we were accused of signalling to the enemy and that MR. SCOTT had distributed rockets. Capt. UEDA, Naval Commander, came into our camp and told us that we were all pro-English. He said that if the enemy landed not a soul would be left on the Island neither animals nor leaves on the trees.

Next morning we were paraded and the sick Nicobarese and Indians were picked out by Superior private KIMURA who said that they would be sent to hospital for treatment. After that no news of them was heard. Next morning DR. JONES was taken by Capt. TOYOSABURO SUMI on the plea that some pamphlets had been dropped and that DR. JONES would translate them into Japanese and come back after three days. He never returned. Every morning a batch of victims was picked out by Superior private HISAO KIMURA, Superior private MINORU ONO and first class private SIZUNO KITATANI of the MINSEIBU, till no more were left. Armed soldiers would wait at a distance. The victims were led there handcuffed and taken to Naval HQ. They were never seen again. One morning I saw an Indian who had been removed a few days before from our camp. His name was IMAGEUL. Five armed soldiers including MINEHARU YASUDA threw the victim into the river. His head was badly cut from a rock and he was unconscious. They were trying to revive him but he never recovered consciousness. They told me to give them 4 Nicobarese to carry him as far as a waiting lorry. He was never seen again.

Capt. TOYOSABURO SUMI was removed by order of Capt. UEDA and a new man was appointed, Capt. AKASHI. This captain worried me every day about rockets and radio sets. He asked me if I ever used radio, when I said "Never" he would not believe me. He then ordered me to go and live at TALLU MINSEIBU. Just then the news reached them that peace had been signed. I would have been the next victim had the war continued.

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2.

I know the Car Nicobaroso very well and am in their confidence. I have never seen or heard of rockets being on the Island or being fired or have I heard of wireless being used to communicate with the Allied Forces.

(Signed) J. RICHARDSON.

X
(Signed) M. ONO.

X
(Signed) H. KIIURA

X X X
(Signed) T. SUII. (Signed) M. YASUDA. (Signed) S. KITATANI.

I hereby certify that Superior Private MINORU ONO, Superior Private HISAO KIIURA, First Class Private TIZUNO KITATANI, Capt. TOYOSABORO SUII, Interpreter MUNEHARU YASUDA, all of whom I now recognize, signed fingerprinted the above statement in my presence.

(Signed) J. RICHARDSON.